



**Montgomery County, Maryland**

## **Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans 3rd Annual Reunion**

**Wednesday, March 28th, 2012 • 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

**Silver Spring Civic Building at One Veterans Place (GPS: 8525 Fenton Street)**



**6:00 p.m. Welcome Home — Bill Gray, Chairman, Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs, Lt., U.S. Army, 1966-1969**

**6:10 p.m. Agent Orange, Health Care and VA Benefits:  
*What You and Your Family Need To Know***

**Moderator: Carl B. Bedell** — Commissioner and Attorney at Law, practices in the areas of veterans benefits law, government contracts, and small business development. He is a licensed member of the Virginia State Bar and is admitted to practice before the U. S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC). He is also an accredited attorney by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). He served as Captain, U.S. Army from 2000-2005.

**Agent Orange, Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report, and VA Services** — Michelle Kennedy Prisco, MSN, ANP-C, Nurse Practitioner and Environmental Exposure Clinician, War Related Illness and Injury Study Center (WRIISC) at the Washington, D.C. VA Medical Center.

**Transgenerational Issues of Children and Grandchildren** — Alan Oates, Chair, Agent Orange/Dioxin and Other Toxic Exposures Committee, Vietnam Veterans of America, U.S. Army, 5th Battalion, 6th Mechanized Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, 1968-1969.

**The VA Claims Process** — Jim Vale, Esq., Director, Veterans Benefits Program, Vietnam Veterans of America. Licensed member of the Washington State Bar and an accredited Veterans Service Officer Representative by the VA Office of General Counsel. Served in the U.S. Navy from 1989-1994 as an Aviation Electronics Technician. Legally blinded veteran and graduate of both the VA Blind Rehabilitation Program and the VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program. Completed MBA, MAS, MPA, MAS, EDS & JD degrees after military service. Presented "Rating Blinded Veterans Claims" training at the National Organization of Veterans Advocates (NOVA) Fall 2009 Seminar.

**The VA Appeals Process** — Lauren Kolage, Esq., Deputy Director, Veterans Benefits Program, Vietnam Veterans of America. Licensed member of the Maryland State Bar. She is an accredited Veterans Services Officer Representative by the VA Office of General Counsel and admitted to practice before the U.S. CAVC. She is the co-author of the Sep./Oct. 2011 article, "So you think you might have a claim for PTSD?" in the VVA *The Veteran*.

**7:30 p.m. Proclamation and Reception with County Executive Isiah Leggett, Vietnam Veteran.**  
During the reception we will be viewing a blog of memorial photos entitled "[A Means To Heal](#)" taken by Michael F. Walsh, lifelong county resident, Vietnam 1967-1968, and MCPS teacher for 30 years.

**8:30 p.m. Conclusion**

**Veterans of every era and the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.**

**Sponsored by Montgomery County Government and Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs**

Silver Spring Metro is nearby. Free public parking after 7:00 p.m. Event is free. Wayne Avenue Garage and Fenton Street Garage is adjacent to building.



**Proudly Supporting All Branches of the U.S. Military**

**Sign language interpreters and ADA accommodations provided upon request.**

**Contact the Commission on Veterans Affairs at 240-777-1246 • MD Relay 711 • [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veterans](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veterans)**